

other hand, he found a definite relationship between alcoholic heredity and mental defect in prematurely born children. The triad of premature birth, delivery complications and psychic heredity has proven to be the most unfavorable combination with an incidence of mental defect in 35 per cent of the cases. In the absence of hereditary factors the percentage of mental defect in cases with birth complication in prematurely born children is higher than in uncomplicated deliveries. He believes that the danger is particularly great in cases with face presentation, in breech presentation, in precipitated delivery and delivery with high forceps and in extraction in breech presentation. He thinks that in eclampsia, in prolapse of small parts and in asphyxia the mental development will depend upon the immediate therapeutic intervention.

In another chapter he discusses the problem of twins. Here he pays attention to the mechanical element and to the fact that twins are frequently prematurely born. Children, out of wedlock, born prematurely are, according to the author, of a lower intelligence level as compared with legitimate offsprings. Brander thinks that this may be due in part to the lower social standing of the progenitors. He noticed that primogene children of older primiparæ compare unfavorably with children born later.

Calculating that 12.8 per cent of all births during the period from 1919 to 1927 which took place in the maternity wards of Helsingfors University Hospital were premature, and that 25.2 to 35.9 per cent of these children survived to reach the school age, he therefore concludes that 3.2 to 4.6 per cent of the children in public schools of Helsingfors were prematurely born. Reasoning further that since 11.2 per cent of this group are mentally deficient, $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent of all the children are therefore probably mentally defective because of premature birth. He further states that there is probably a direct relationship to premature birth in 12.5 to 25 per cent of all hypophrenias. He found relatively few cases with endogenous hereditary factors, such as mongoloid idiocy, myxedema or epilepsy and this brings him to the conclusion that the exogenous type of mental defect among prematurely born infants constitutes the majority. The practical conclusion which Brander draws from this investigation is that a more careful obstetrical prophylaxis must be carried out for the prevention of the exogenous type of mental deficiency.

This study may be a beginning in the right direction. Similar investigations may throw light on some of the still baffling psychiatric and neurologic problems.

The book is abundantly documented with charts, tables and case records.

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NEW LIGHT ON DELINQUENCY AND ITS TREATMENT. Results of a research conducted for the Institute of Human Relations, Yale University. By William Healey, M. D., and Augusta F. Bronner, Ph. D. (New Haven: Yale University Press, 1936.)

This book is the result of a three year study in three different cities of 153 delinquents belonging to 133 families. Five hundred seventy-four mem-

bers of the families were examined and 145 non-delinquents were studied, 105 of them being utilized as controls. It is pointed out by the authors that the research was originally planned for ten years and that the number of patients studied was too small to make statistical conclusions of much value. There is, however, a fair amount of statistics in the book, aiding somewhat in understanding the work done, although much of the statistics adds nothing new to the subject, as the authors themselves have stated.

To the reviewer, there are some parts of the book which are extremely valuable and which should be emphasized. The first chapter on the significance of delinquency is an excellent summary of the subject. It is the type of thing that one wishes particularly that judges and all those having to do with delinquency, and who have not had thorough psychiatric training, should read. The question as to why some people refrain from delinquency as being a problem to be studied, the observation that in the delinquent cases "there had been no strong emotional tie-up to anyone who presented a pattern of satisfactory social behavior," the statement that "conscience may cover only certain areas in the field of conduct," all these are ideas which should be more generally diffused.

The attempt to use controls by studying non-delinquents in the same family appears to be an excellent way to approach the problem, and the study of twins is obviously one of the most ideal ways of getting such controls. The book then continues the study of these cases in an endeavor to determine what the delinquency represents to the individual, and on this basis treatment is outlined, with an endeavor to evaluate such treatment. The last chapter, "Practical Implications of the Research," sums up certain conclusions and opinions of the authors.

The book should certainly be read by all those interested in the problem of delinquency and its treatment.

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THE NEUROTIC PERSONALITY OF OUR TIME. By *Karen Horney, M.D.*
(New York: W. W. Norton & Co., Inc., 1937.)

This book is a refreshing rebellion against the orthodox Freudian doctrine in that it extends the etiology of the neuroses into other domains than the sexual phases of infancy and childhood. Most importantly, so far as the non-Freudian is concerned, it is a recognition on the part of those who do psychoanalysis of the social-cultural environment as a factor in the production of the neuroses, a discovery which the average practicing physician and the non-Freudian psychiatrist has taken for granted since Beard's day. This book is a belated discovery of America by a somewhat tardy Columbus.

The importance of the past, of the experiences of infancy and even of the foetal state has been given exaggerated value by Freud and his followers. Dr. Horney seeks to bring the present, the adult life, into etiological relationship to the neuroses. She states: